

Appendix B. Summary of Public Meeting

SUMMARY OF GEORGIA GREENSPACE PROGRAM
PUBLIC MEETING FOR FAYETTE COUNTY
September 18, 2002
Fayette County Administrative Complex
Public Hearing Room

A public meeting was held on September 18, 2002, in the Fayette County Public Hearing Room for the purpose of public information and input to fulfill the requirements of the Georgia Greenspace Program.

The following is a summary of the public meeting:

Pete Frisina, Fayette County Senior Planner, presented the following information to the public in attendance:

The purpose of the Georgia Greenspace Program is to encourage rapidly developing counties to permanently protect a minimum of 20% of their total area as green space. These areas must be permanently protected via a legal mechanism such as a conservation easement or deed restriction. These areas can only be utilized for passive recreation.

The goals of the Georgia Greenspace Program include, protection of water quality, wetland areas, riparian buffers, scenic areas and archaeological and historic resources, protection from flooding, reduction of soil erosion, provision of passive recreation and connecting these green space areas.

Fayette county submitted its first grant application in 2000. Fayetteville, Peachtree City and Tyrone participated in the program. Brooks and Woolsey did not elect to individually participate in the program. In the last two years Fayette County as a whole has received approximately 1.4 million dollars from this program. The approximate grant fund allocation per jurisdiction is as follows: Unincorporated Fayette County - \$707,600, Fayetteville - \$150,600, Peachtree City - \$501,100 and Tyrone - \$60,200. These amounts do not include end of fiscal year disbursements of unclaimed grant funds. To date, with these funds, Fayette County has purchased a 44 acre tract, Peachtree City has purchased a 3.4 acre tract (one third of a 10.26 acre to be purchased over three years) and Tyrone purchased a 1.532 acre tract.

The share of future grant funds among Unincorporated Fayette County (48.9%), Fayetteville (12.2%), Peachtree City (34.6%)and Tyrone (4.3%) will be based on the 2000 Census.

The target acreage for permanent protect for each jurisdiction is Unincorporated Fayette County (19,359 acres), Fayetteville (1,322 acres), Peachtree City (3,087 acres)and Tyrone (1,608 acres).

The public posed the following questions:

1. Is there any discussion in your program of these greenways extending into or connecting with greenways in south Fulton County?

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Reply: No, however an ad-hoc committee of Greenspace Program coordinators are now meeting at the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and the coordination of the various county plans will be addressed through this committee.

2. Does your plan set protection priorities for the various stream corridors indicated on the proposed greenspace map?

Reply: No, the plan is very general. However, at the staff level we are looking at the relationship between property currently owned by the County and their proximity to these stream corridors.

3. Have you received any donations of property?

Reply: No.

4. Does your plan set a required distance from a stream that the County will permanently protect.

Reply: No, the protection of each stream corridor will be handled on a case by case basis and based on whether the area will be protection only or protection with public access and facilities.

5. Has the unincorporated County targeted roadway buffers like the Town of Tyrone has done?

Reply: No, the unincorporated County has targeted stream corridors primarily.

6. Is State funding for this program guaranteed for the foreseeable future?

Reply: The funding for this program has to be approved annually by the State Legislature.

7. Has the County coordinated its plan along Line Creek with Coweta County?

Reply: No.

8. Does the County have a conservation subdivision ordinance?

Reply: Yes, it was created as a objective of our first greenspace grant application.

The meeting ended at this point.